

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action dated April 19, 2006, Applicant notes with appreciation the withdrawal of the previous grounds of rejection and the indication that claims 1-13 contain allowable subject matter.

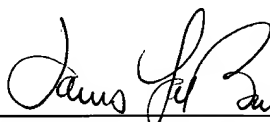
Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. The Office Action states that claim 1 does not recite a tangible result. To remove the basis for this rejection, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the result of the claimed steps is applied to a cryptographic operation. It is respectfully submitted that the claim recites a practical, tangible result, and therefore complies with 35 U.S.C. § 101, as interpreted by the Patent and Trademark Office.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL AND ROONEY PC

Date: August 21, 2006

By:   
James A. LaBarre  
Registration No. 28,632

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620